

Message Text

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11

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /037 W

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R 251001Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5087

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, JA, PINT

SUBJ: SOHYO UNIONS STRIKE OVER RIGHT TO STRIKE ISSUE

REF: TOKYO 15643

TOKYO 16764

1. WITH GOJ AND SOHYO AFFILIATED COUNCIL OF PUBLIC ENTERPRISE UNIONS (KOROKYO) STILL AS FAR APART AS EVER ON RIGHT TO STRIKE ISSUE, WORKERS ON NATIONAL RAILROADS WILL BEGIN 96 HOUR STRIKE EARLY MORNING NOV 26 AND POSTAL, TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND MUNICIPAL BUS AND SUBWAY WORKERS WILL SUPPORT THEM WITH PARTIAL WALKOUTS DURING NEXT FOUR DAYS. PRIMIN MIKI AND LDP SEC GEN NAKASONE, STILL MAINTAINING HARD LINE TOWARDS KOROKYO, HAVE PUBLICLY LABELED STRIKES "UNDEMOCRATIC RESORT TO FORCE" AND HAVE PROMISED TO PUNISH STRIKERS FOR VIOLATING THE LAW. SOCIALIST PARTY (JSP), WHICH SINCE SAT HAS BEEN NEGOTIATING ON BEHALF OF SOHYO UNIONS HAS TERMED "FRUITLESS" TWO ROUNDS OF TALKS WITH CHIEF CABINET SECRETARY IDE AND ABMIN HASEGAWA AND HAS SET AS MINIMUM CONDITION FOR CALLING OFF STRIKE STATEMENT FROM PRIMIN ACCEPTING IN PRINCIPLE PUBLIC CORPORATION WORKERS RIGHT TO STRIKE.

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2. WELL-CONNECTED LABOR COMMENTATOR YOSHIMURA TELLS US

THAT NEITHER GOJ NOR UNIONS HAVE AS YET ANY MAGIC FORMULA TO
AVERT CONFRONTATIONS (WHICH BOTH SIDES PRIVATELY WISH
THEY COULD HAVE AVOIDED). ACCORDING TO YOSHIMURA,
GOJ BELIEVES THAT IN NEXT TWO DAYS MEDIA WILL TURN
PUBLIC OPINION SO STRONGLY AGAINST STRIKERS THAT KOROKYO
LEADERS WILL SEATTLE FOR VIRTUALLY ANY GESTURE FROM GOJ
PERMITTING THEM TO CALL OFF STRIKE BUT STILL SAVE FACE VIS A
VIS THEIR MEMBERSHIP. MOST INTERESTING ROLE IS BEING PLAYED BY
COMMUNIST PARTY. AT ONE AND SAME TIME, IT IS SUPPORTING
RIGHT TO STRIKE IN PRINCIPLE AND CAUTIONING KOROKYO
PUBLIC SECTOR WORKERS NOT TO "INCONVENIENCE THE PUBLIC."
HODGSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR RELATIONS, RAILROADS, LABOR STRIKES, LABOR POLICY LINE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TOKYO16835
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750410-0201
From: TOKYO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751114/aaaaalyc.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 TOKYO 15643
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17 JUL 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <19 NOV 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOHYO UNIONS STRIKE OVER RIGHT TO STRIKE ISSUE
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, JA, SOHYO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006